

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00
L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 VO-05 CA-01 /072 W
-----082651 222255Z /65

R 220853Z MAR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5877
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY ROME

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA; ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IZ, US

SUBJ: IRAQI AIRWAYS (IA) STUDIES FLIGHTS TO US

REF: BAGHDAD 0033 AND 0063

1. AMID A GROWING NUMBER OF SIGNS THAT IRAQI AIRWAYS IS CONSIDERING FLIGHTS TO NORTH AMERICA, USINT HAS RECEIVED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE, DATED MARCH 15, 1978, SAYING THAT "IRAQI AIRWAYS IS STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF OPERATING TO THE UNITED STATES ... AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE NUMBER OF ENTRY VISAS TO THE UNITED STATES GRANTED IN BAGHDAD IN 1977 BOTH TO IRAQIS AND TO FOREIGNERS". IN ADDITION, BOEING, ACCORDING TO LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE, HAS JUST COMPLETED A STUDY FOR IA SHOWING ONCE-A-WEEK FLIGHTS TO NEW YORK VIA AMMAN COULD BE ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE. BOEING SOURCE ALSO STATED HE BELIEVED THAT US AND IRAQ STILL HAVE A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT IN EFFECT WHICH GIVES PAN AM LANDING RIGHTS IN BAGHDAD AND UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH THE GOI MIGHT REQUEST LANDING RIGHTS IN NEW YORK.

2. IATA PRESIDENT HAMMERSHIJOLD AND ALIA MANAGING DIRECTOR ALI GHANDOUR HAVE ALSO VISITED BAGHDAD SINCE THE FIRST OF MARCH. THOUGH POST HAS NO INFORMATION ON WHETHER GHANDOUR'S DISCUSSION INCLUDED POSSIBILITY OF IA-ALIA TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION (SEE BAGHDAD 0063), CANADIAN

AMBASSADOR REPORTS IRAQI OFFICIALS DISCUSSED NORTH ATLANTIC OPERATIONS WITH HAMMERSHJOLD.

3. COMMENT: USINT INTENDS TO PROVIDE DATA ABOUT VISAS REQUESTED IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE AND IS CONSIDERING REQUESTING APPOINTMENT WITH IA OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THEIR PLANS. BEFORE DOING SO, POST WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ABOUT ANY CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT WHICH MAY BE STILL IN AFFECT AND PRELIMINARY INDICATION OF US VIEWS CONCERNING IA SERVICE TO THE US. IF THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE US WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SUCH FLIGHTS, USINT BELIEVES IA'S INITIATIVES SHOULD BE IGNORED UNTIL GOI FORMALLY RAISES ISSUE.
MACK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC NOTES, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780340/aaaabhdl.tel
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: EAIR, IZ, US, IRAQI AIRWAYS
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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